

Patterns of Hospital Prepayment Coverage in the United States, 1956

MAURICE E. ODOROFF, M.A., and LESLIE MORGAN ABBE, B.S.

A NATIONAL household survey of the use of general hospitals has afforded an unusual opportunity to obtain firsthand information on the extent of hospital prepayment coverage. The survey covered about 27,000 households, consisting of some 90,000 persons of all ages, drawn from the civilian noninstitutional population of each State then in the Union. It was conducted by the Bureau of the Census in September 1956, in connection with its Current Population Survey, for the Division of Hospital and Medical Facilities of the Public Health Service. It included three-fourths of the families in each of the 330 sample areas comprising the Current Population Survey base (1). Three earlier reports have described the survey procedures and presented provisional findings on various factors associated with the use of general hospitals (2-4).

As a supplement to the main objective of obtaining information on hospital use, three questions were asked in the survey interview about hospital insurance and membership in other plans providing protection against the costs of hospital care. These questions determined whether or not persons had such protection, the principal type of plan held, and the services covered by the plan. This information could be matched with other data collected on personal and family characteristics. To facilitate accuracy on the part of the respondents, each family was sent a letter ex-

plaining the nature and purpose of the survey and asking them to prepare in advance to supply information about hospitalization insurance or other prepayment coverage.

Instructions to the enumerators contained several definitions relating to prepayment coverage. The insurance or prepayment plans to be included were those of a general nature covering all or some part of hospital costs regardless of the reason for entering the hospital. They included the following:

1. Commercial hospital insurance (when not limited to accidents), on either an individual or group basis.
2. Blue Cross or Blue Shield plans, or other nonprofit plans sponsored by medical societies, on either an individual or group basis.
3. Consumer-sponsored plans (not types 1 and 2) which provide prepaid hospital care, including cooperatives and plans sponsored by fraternal organizations.
4. Industrial plans of an employer or union which provide hospital care beyond that legally required for industrial accidents.
5. Other free or reduced-cost hospital plans, such as hospital employee benefits, free hospital care for dependents of Armed Forces members, and the like.

The following policies and plans were excluded since they are for particular purposes or of uncertain availability: (a) policies covering only accidents, "dread diseases," income lost from disability, clinic or office visits, or liability for injury to others, and (b) free hospital care for veterans in Veterans Administration hospitals.

After establishing the existence of prepay-

Mr. Odoroff is chief and Mr. Abbe is assistant chief of the Program Evaluation and Reports Branch, Division of Hospital and Medical Facilities, Public Health Service.

ment coverage in a household, the enumerator asked: "What kind of insurance or plan is it—Blue Cross or something else?" In designating the type of prepayment plan, the term "Blue Cross" is used to include the prepayment plans of more than 80 nonprofit corporate organizations for hospital care, together with related plans of a similar nature covering surgical care under the general term "Blue Shield." "Other plans" are all those not identified as Blue Cross or Blue Shield. For persons who had Blue Cross and another prepayment plan, the enumerators identified and reported only the most comprehensive one. Hence, no more than one plan is reported for each person in the study.

The enumerator next asked: "What kinds of services does the plan cover?" Since all persons previously identified as covered by a prepayment plan were understood to be eligible for hospital care, this question was intended to find out for what other services, if any, they were eligible. The categories of services were defined as follows:

Hospital care: The cost of room and board at the hospital, nursing care, and use of the laboratory, operating room, and similar facilities, whether or not the prepayment plan covers the full cost of all these services.

Surgery: All fees (or any part of the fees) charged by surgeons for performing operations.

Table 1. Hospital prepayment coverage status by race and sex, September 1956

Race and sex	Percent of population with hospital prepayment coverage			
	All types of coverage	Hospital and surgical	Hospital only	Other services ¹
All persons.....	63.6	49.2	8.4	6.0
Male.....	64.1	49.7	8.4	6.0
Female.....	63.2	48.8	8.4	6.0
White.....	67.0	52.1	8.4	6.4
Male.....	67.4	52.6	8.4	6.3
Female.....	66.6	51.7	8.4	6.5
Nonwhite.....	35.7	25.2	7.8	2.7
Male.....	36.3	25.5	7.8	2.9
Female.....	35.2	24.9	7.8	2.6

¹ Other combinations of services or other single services.

Table 2. Hospital prepayment coverage status by age and sex, September 1956

Age group (years)	Percent of population with hospital prepayment coverage			
	All types of coverage	Hospital and surgical	Hospital only	Other services ¹
<i>All persons</i>				
All ages.....	63.6	49.2	8.4	6.0
Under 14.....	64.1	50.3	7.1	6.7
14-24.....	60.8	47.7	7.8	5.3
25-34.....	70.8	55.9	7.7	7.1
35-44.....	71.5	55.3	9.4	6.9
45-54.....	68.5	52.9	9.7	5.9
55-64.....	62.6	46.9	11.2	4.7
65 and over.....	36.5	25.1	8.5	2.9
<i>Male</i>				
All ages.....	64.1	49.7	8.4	6.0
Under 14.....	64.0	50.1	7.3	6.5
14-24.....	59.0	47.0	7.3	4.6
25-34.....	70.5	55.7	7.8	7.0
35-44.....	71.9	55.2	9.6	7.1
45-54.....	70.0	54.3	9.4	6.3
55-64.....	64.9	49.1	10.8	5.1
65 and over.....	39.2	27.2	8.9	3.2
<i>Female</i>				
All ages.....	63.2	48.8	8.4	6.0
Under 14.....	64.3	50.4	6.9	6.9
14-24.....	62.3	48.4	8.1	5.9
25-34.....	71.1	56.1	7.7	7.3
35-44.....	71.2	55.4	9.2	6.7
45-54.....	67.2	51.6	9.9	5.7
55-64.....	60.5	44.6	11.6	4.3
65 and over.....	34.2	23.4	8.2	2.6

¹ See table 1, footnote 1.

Other services: Includes general care by a doctor in a hospital, all hospital costs beyond a certain amount (major medical expense insurance), and similar services other than hospital care as described above. This category may include combinations of services in a hospital other than hospital care and surgery or other single services.

This report presents national data on the percentage of the civilian population with hospital prepayment coverage, in accordance with the definitions described above. The data on the extent of coverage are shown in the accompanying tables with respect to demographic, so-

cial, and economic characteristics of the people covered. Coverage is classified by race and sex, age and sex, veteran status, urban-rural type of residence, employment status, and income status for families and individuals. Highlights of the findings are discussed below.

Demographic Factors

Race and sex. Very little difference appears in the extent of prepayment protection for men and that for women, either in the total coverage or in the various forms (table 1). The nonwhite population, however, has much less coverage than the white population. Of the white population, 52.1 percent have hospital and surgical prepayment protection, but only 25.2 percent of the nonwhite population are covered. Coverage under all plans stands at 67.0 percent for the white population and at 35.7 percent for the nonwhite.

Age. The proportion of the population with hospital prepayment protection varies considerably with age (table 2). Coverage under all plans for children under 14 years old is reported as 64.1 percent. The rate rises to a maximum of about 71 percent for persons 25 to 44 years of age, then decreases moderately to age 64. For persons 65 and over, prepayment coverage under all plans combined falls to 36.5 percent, coverage for men of this age reaching 39.2 percent and for women dropping to 34.2 percent.

Table 3. Hospital prepayment coverage status for males 14 years and over by veteran status, September 1956

Veteran status	Percent of males 14 years and over with hospital prepayment coverage			
	All types of coverage	Hospital and surgical	Hospital only	Other services ¹
All males 14 years and over.....	64.1	49.5	8.9	5.7
Veterans.....	70.6	54.6	8.9	7.1
World War I.....	73.9	57.2	8.9	7.8
Other veterans.....	64.1	49.5	9.0	5.6
Nonveterans.....	60.3	46.5	8.8	5.0

¹ See table 1, footnote 1.

Table 4. Hospital prepayment coverage status by type of residence, September 1956

Type of residence	Percent of population with hospital prepayment coverage			
	All types of coverage	Hospital and surgical	Hospital only	Other services ¹
Urban.....	68.2	51.9	9.8	6.5
Within urbanized areas, total ²	69.2	52.5	10.8	6.0
1 million or more.....	69.0	51.3	12.8	4.8
250,000-999,999.....	68.4	51.8	8.6	8.1
Under 250,000.....	70.7	56.2	8.3	6.3
Outside urbanized areas, total.....	65.7	50.6	7.3	7.8
25,000 or more.....	70.3	59.7	5.9	4.7
2,500-24,999.....	64.0	47.4	7.7	8.9
Rural nonfarm.....	64.4	51.1	6.9	6.5
Rural farm.....	40.3	32.7	4.7	2.9

¹ See table 1, footnote 1.

² Urbanized areas comprise a central city of 50,000 population with its urban fringe, defined as contiguous areas of a population density of 500 dwelling units per square mile, plus similar noncontiguous areas within 1½ miles highway distance. (Metropolitan areas include entire counties and are usually considerably larger than their urbanized areas.) U.S. Bureau of the Census: Census of Population: 1950, vol. 1, pp. xxvii and xxxv.

Veteran status. Only minor variation exists with respect to veteran status for total prepayment coverage (table 3). The rate for all veterans is 70.6 percent and for nonveterans, 60.3 percent. The younger veterans of World War II have a slightly higher percentage of coverage.

Social Factors

Type of residence. The rate of coverage for hospital prepayment protection is consistently high for persons in cities of 50,000 inhabitants or more (table 4). These cities and their built-up fringe areas, defined by the Bureau of the Census as "urbanized areas," have a coverage rate of 69.2 percent. The level of prepayment protection is slightly less for people residing in cities with populations between 2,500 and 25,000, where 64.0 percent are covered. Coverage is much less, 40.3 percent, for people who live on farms.

Employment status and industry. Very marked differentials appear in the proportion

of hospital prepayment protection according to employment status (table 5). Among wage and salary workers in agriculture the coverage rate is 26.5 percent, much less than one-half the rate of 68.1 percent for all persons in the labor force. At the other end of the scale, wage and salary workers in manufacturing have prepayment protection for 84.9 percent of their number. The lowest coverage among employed persons outside agriculture is in domestic service, with 44.6 percent covered. Among disabled persons, who cannot work, the coverage is about 21 percent.

Income and Family Status

Income is more closely associated with the extent of prepayment protection than any other factor investigated. For both primary families and primary individuals, prepayment pro-

tection rises rapidly as income increases (table 6). When family income is less than \$1,000, only 18.4 percent of primary family members have coverage of any kind. This figure may be compared with 65.2 percent for all primary families and a maximum of 83.6 percent for families with incomes between \$7,500 and \$10,000. A slightly lower proportion of families with incomes over \$10,000, 80.1 percent, have prepayment coverage. For all primary individuals (who live alone or else maintain a household with persons not related to them) the level of prepayment coverage is 47.5 percent, or less than three-fourths of the coverage for all members of primary families.

Income is also related to the type of protection plan carried. Prepayment coverage increases steadily with income, both under Blue Cross plans (including Blue Shield) and under

Table 5. Hospital prepayment coverage status of persons aged 14 years and over by employment status and industry, September 1956

Employment status and industry	Percent of population, aged 14 years and over, with hospital prepayment coverage					
	All types of coverage			Hospital and surgical	Hospital only	Other services ¹
	All persons	Male	Female			
Total, 14 years and over	63.4	64.1	62.8	48.8	8.9	5.7
In labor force.....	68.1	68.1	68.3	52.7	9.3	6.1
Employed.....	68.9	68.9	69.0	53.3	9.4	6.2
Agriculture.....	32.6	33.8	29.2	25.2	5.0	2.3
Wage and salary workers.....	26.5	27.7	23.2	19.4	4.4	2.7
Self-employed workers.....	36.7	36.6	-----	29.6	4.9	2.2
Unpaid family workers.....	31.5	33.0	30.8	23.5	6.0	2.0
Nonagricultural industries.....	73.5	73.9	72.8	56.9	10.0	6.6
Wage and salary workers.....	75.2	75.9	73.8	58.4	10.0	6.8
Mining ²	81.5	80.8	-----	58.9	4.3	18.3
Construction.....	59.0	58.4	-----	45.0	9.0	4.9
Manufacturing.....	84.9	85.7	82.5	67.4	10.5	7.0
Transportation.....	81.3	81.5	80.5	63.5	10.5	7.3
Trade.....	70.8	69.3	73.1	55.2	9.2	6.4
Services.....	67.7	67.8	67.7	51.3	10.2	6.2
Private households.....	44.6	47.1	44.2	34.0	7.2	3.4
Professional services.....	74.5	71.0	76.4	56.6	11.2	6.7
Other services.....	71.0	68.0	74.8	53.5	10.6	6.9
Public administration.....	75.1	72.6	81.8	56.6	10.7	7.8
Self-employed workers.....	60.4	59.9	62.3	44.4	9.9	6.1
Unpaid family workers.....	60.8	-----	62.5	51.5	5.9	3.3
Unemployed.....	41.8	35.8	50.2	31.2	6.1	4.5
Not in labor force.....	56.7	45.1	59.6	43.4	8.3	5.1
Keeping house.....	60.7	-----	60.6	46.3	8.6	5.7
Going to school.....	63.7	63.4	63.9	49.7	8.2	5.8
Unable to work.....	20.7	23.2	17.2	13.4	6.1	1.2
Other nonworkers.....	38.2	36.1	46.9	28.0	7.4	2.8

¹ See table 1, footnote 1.

² Includes forestry and fisheries.

Table 6. Hospital prepayment coverage status by family status and income, September 1956

Family status and income ¹	Percent of population with hospital prepayment coverage			
	All types of coverage	Hospital and surgical	Hospital only	Other services ²
<i>Members of primary families</i>				
All incomes	65. 2	50. 6	8. 5	6. 1
Under \$1000	18. 4	12. 7	4. 2	1. 6
\$1000-\$1999	31. 6	23. 1	5. 8	2. 7
\$2000-\$2999	47. 3	36. 3	6. 8	4. 1
\$3000-\$3999	65. 2	51. 1	8. 9	5. 3
\$4000-\$4999	74. 8	59. 1	8. 4	7. 3
\$5000-\$7499	81. 3	63. 8	9. 6	7. 9
\$7500-\$9999	83. 6	65. 3	9. 1	9. 2
\$10,000 and over	80. 1	60. 4	12. 7	7. 0
Income not reported	62. 0	46. 5	10. 8	4. 7
<i>Primary individuals</i>				
All incomes	47. 5	34. 3	8. 6	4. 5
Under \$1000	25. 1	16. 4	6. 7	2. 0
\$1000-\$1999	40. 4	28. 2	7. 7	4. 5
\$2000-\$2999	56. 2	40. 3	10. 3	5. 5
\$3000-\$3999	73. 8	58. 0	10. 3	5. 5
\$4000-\$4999	77. 3	58. 9	9. 5	8. 9
\$5000 and over	73. 0	56. 2	8. 6	8. 1
Income not reported	56. 7	36. 1	15. 5	5. 2

¹ Primary family members include persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption (one being the head of the household); primary individuals are heads of households not living with relatives. "Income" for members of primary families includes money income of all members of the family; for primary individuals, it includes personal income only.

² See table 1, footnote 1.

other sources of coverage (table 7). However, the proportion of all coverage carried by Blue Cross-Blue Shield is about 40 percent for persons with family incomes of less than \$1,000, and about 60 percent at incomes of \$10,000 or more.

Comparison With Other Studies

The data obtained from this study in 1956 provide a useful benchmark in the field of prepayment coverage, which is one of the most rapidly changing aspects of medical care today. One other study on a national scale was conducted in 1953 by Anderson and Feldman, for the Health Information Foundation (5). In addition, annual estimates on the number

of people protected for hospital, surgical, and regular medical expense have been compiled since 1940 by the Health Insurance Council, which now comprises eight insurance associations. These estimates afford a panorama not elsewhere available as to historical trends in the health insurance field (6).

A fairly close correlation appears between

Table 7. Hospital prepayment coverage status by source of principal coverage, by family status and income for selected age groups, September 1956

Family status and income ¹	Percent of population with hospital prepayment coverage, by source of principal coverage		
	All sources	Blue Cross-Blue Shield	Other plans
<i>Members of primary families, 14 years and over</i>			
All incomes	65. 3	32. 9	32. 4
Under \$1000	19. 9	7. 1	12. 8
\$1000-\$1999	34. 6	13. 7	20. 9
\$2000-\$2999	49. 6	20. 4	29. 2
\$3000-\$3999	65. 5	30. 4	35. 1
\$4000-\$4999	74. 0	37. 4	36. 6
\$5000-\$7499	80. 6	41. 9	38. 7
\$7500-\$9999	82. 7	46. 6	36. 1
\$10,000 and over	79. 4	48. 8	30. 6
Income not reported	62. 5	34. 9	27. 6
<i>Members of primary families, under 14 years</i>			
All incomes	64. 9	32. 0	32. 9
Under \$1000	14. 8	5. 7	9. 1
\$1000-\$1999	24. 3	10. 8	13. 5
\$2000-\$2999	42. 2	16. 2	26. 0
\$3000-\$3999	64. 6	30. 9	33. 7
\$4000-\$4999	76. 4	38. 2	38. 2
\$5000-\$7499	82. 9	40. 9	42. 0
\$7500-\$9999	86. 2	47. 6	38. 6
\$10,000 and over	82. 7	49. 3	33. 4
Income not reported	60. 3	31. 1	29. 2
<i>Primary individuals</i>			
All incomes	47. 5	23. 4	24. 1
Under \$1000	25. 1	10. 6	14. 5
\$1000-\$1999	40. 4	19. 9	20. 5
\$2000-\$2999	56. 2	27. 8	28. 4
\$3000-\$3999	73. 8	38. 4	35. 4
\$4000-\$4999	77. 3	30. 8	36. 5
\$5000 and over	73. 0	35. 1	37. 9
Income not reported	56. 7	32. 7	24. 0

¹ See table 6, footnote 1.

the trend estimates and the data of the 1953 and 1956 surveys, as shown in the accompanying chart. In this chart all data are related to the total civilian population. Adjustments from a population base covering only the non-institutional population were considered advisable for the data of the two surveys in the comparison because of the difficulty in projecting annual change in institutional population for trend purposes. On this basis, the 1953 survey shows a level of prepayment coverage 6.4 percent below the interpolated percentage estimate of the Health Insurance Council. The 1956 survey shows a level 7.8 percent below the interpolated estimate of the Health Insurance Council. The close agreement of these differentials in the 1953 study and in the present report, when a substantially larger sample base was used (about 90,000 persons, as compared with 8,846 persons), suggests the possibility of overstatement in the annual trend series. One recognized difficulty in the Health Insurance Council estimates is an exact adjustment for duplicate coverage. This was noted in the report of the 1953 survey (5). Other possible sources of differences noted therein include some lag in processing lapsed policies and the likelihood of some under-reporting of coverage by survey response, such as the failure to men-

tion disability policies which carry minor payments for hospital charges.

Another survey on a small scale in Ohio, Connecticut, and Vermont in 1953-54 found that 69 percent of the 1,657 persons studied had hospital prepayment coverage, but this level appears to be sectional in nature (7).

Some comparisons can be made between the Health Information Foundation survey of 1953 and the Public Health Service survey of 1956 with respect to coverage according to socio-economic characteristics. Table 8 sets forth direct results of the two surveys, based on the noninstitutional civilian population.

Between 1953 and 1956 coverage increased 11 percent nationally, but in rural nonfarm areas it increased 24 percent. Rural nonfarm areas include communities below 2,500 in population and the nonurban fringes of large cities, where it may be assumed that rapid growth in population is principally of urban-oriented families.

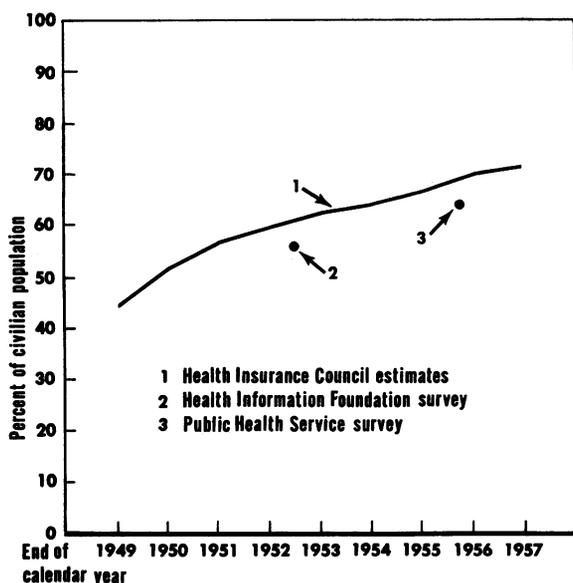
Persons aged 65 years or over with prepayment coverage have increased from 31 percent in 1953 to 36.5 percent in 1956, a proportional gain of 18 percent. A more extensive analysis of the original data of the 1956 survey relating to persons 65 and over has been carried out through special tabulations developed for the Social Security Administration (8).

Levels of prepayment coverage for selected industries in the two studies are shown in table 8 because of their general similarity, although in some cases the reporting bases are different. Distribution of coverage by family income groups also shows fairly close similarity, although income groups were not identical.

Summary

The type and extent of prepayment protection against the costs of hospital care were studied in a national household survey in 1956. A sample of about 27,000 families with 90,000 persons of all ages was interviewed, with sample areas in every State. Hospital prepayment coverage was carried by 63.6 percent of the noninstitutional civilian population. This may be compared with a level of 57 percent found by a Health Information Foundation study in 1953. Hospital and surgical expenses were covered in 1956 for 49.2 percent of the population; hospital expenses only, for 8.4 per-

Hospital prepayment coverage, United States, 1949-57



cent; and other hospital benefits (other combinations of service or other single services), for 6.0 percent.

Table 8. Patterns of hospital prepayment coverage by socioeconomic characteristics, 1953 and 1956

Socioeconomic characteristic	Percent of civilian noninstitutional population covered		
	HIF survey, July 1953 ¹ (Base: 8,846 persons)	PHS survey, September 1956 (Base: 90,000 persons)	Percent increase
<i>Place of residence</i>			
All areas.....	57	63.6	11
Urban.....	64	68.2	7
Rural nonfarm.....	52	64.4	24
Rural farm.....	38	40.3	6
<i>Age</i>			
Under 6.....	56	} ² 64.1	-----
6-17.....	58		-----
18-24.....	49	} ³ 60.8	-----
25-34.....	64		70.8
35-44.....	65	71.5	10
45-54.....	63	68.5	9
55-64.....	54	62.6	16
65 and over.....	31	36.5	18
<i>Employment</i> ⁴			
Manufacturing.....	87	84.9	(⁵)
Mining.....	89	⁶ 81.5	(⁵)
Transportation.....	74	81.3	(⁵)
Professional services.....	72	74.5	(⁵)
Trade.....	67	70.8	(⁵)
Construction.....	57	59.0	(⁵)
Agriculture.....	⁶ 33	32.6	(⁵)
<i>Family income</i>			
All incomes.....	57	65.2	14
Under \$1000.....	} 26	18.4	-----
\$1000-\$1999.....		31.6	-----
\$2000-\$2999.....	} ⁷ 48	47.3	-----
\$3000-\$3999.....		65.2	-----
\$4000-\$4999.....	} ⁸ 64	74.8	-----
\$5000-\$7499.....		71	81.3
\$7500-\$9999.....	} 71	83.6	-----
\$10,000 and over.....		80.1	-----

¹ See reference 5.

² Under 14 years.

³ 14-24 years.

⁴ Coverage basis, 1953 study: percent of families; 1956 study: percent of persons 14 years and over.

⁵ Not fully comparable.

⁶ Includes forestry and fisheries.

⁷ \$2,000-\$3,500.

⁸ \$3,500-\$4,999.

The most important contrasts in the extent of prepayment protection are associated with variation in income. In primary families with incomes of less than \$1,000 only 18 percent of the members had protection of any kind. The highest coverage rate was 83.6 percent in families with incomes between \$7,500 and \$10,000. Differences in the rate of prepayment coverage were also great with respect to type of employment: wage and salary workers in agriculture had only 26.5 percent coverage, while those in manufacturing had 84.9 percent. Age, too, was related notably to extent of coverage. Persons 65 years or over had a coverage rate of 36.5 percent, while maximum coverage amounted to 71.5 percent at ages 35 to 44 years. People living on farms had a total coverage of only 40.3 percent. Persons with low incomes had a lower proportion of their total coverage under Blue Cross and Blue Shield than did persons of above-average incomes.

These patterns of hospital prepayment coverage in 1956 provide a benchmark in a rapidly changing field. They also underscore those aspects of our social fabric in which health care is uncertain.

REFERENCES

- (1) U.S. Bureau of the Census: Concepts and methods used in the current employment and unemployment statistics prepared by the Bureau of the Census. Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 5. Washington, D.C., May 9, 1958, 14 pp.
- (2) Odoroff, M. E., and Abbe, L. M.: Use of general hospitals: Demographic and ecologic factors. Pub. Health Rep. 72: 397-403, May 1957.
- (3) Odoroff, M. E., and Abbe, L. M.: Use of general hospitals: Factors in outpatient visits. Pub. Health Rep. 72: 478-483, June 1957.
- (4) Odoroff, M. E., and Abbe, L. M.: Use of general hospitals: Variation with methods of payment. Pub. Health Rep. 74: 316-324, April 1959.
- (5) Anderson, O. W., with Feldman, J. J.: Family medical costs and voluntary health insurance: A nationwide survey. New York, McGraw Hill Book Co., 1956, 251 pp.
- (6) Health Insurance Council: The extent of voluntary health insurance coverage in the United States as of December 31, 1957. New York, August 1958, 32 pp.
- (7) Brewster, A. W., and Dinitz, S.: Health insurance protection and medical care expenditures: Findings from three family surveys. Social Security Bull. 19: 3-10, November 1956.

(8) Brewster, A. W.: I. Health insurance coverage by age and sex, September 1956. II. Characteristics of the population with hospitalization insurance, September 1956. III. Health insurance in the population 65 and over. Research

and Statistics Notes Nos. 13, 14, and 17. Washington, D.C., Social Security Administration, Division of Program Research, May 21, May 27, and June 11, 1958, 6 pp., 7 pp., and 9 pp. Processed.

PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

The publications selected for this list have been issued recently by State, local, voluntary, or other organizations associated with public health. Address inquiries to the publisher or sponsoring agency.

Radiation Biology and Medicinc. Selected reviews in the life sciences. Edited by Walter D. Claus for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. 1958; 944 pages. Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., Inc., Reading, Mass.; \$11.50.

Rehabilitation Center Planning—An Architectural Guide. By F. Cuthbert Salmon and Christine F. Salmon, American Institute of Architects. (Grant from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.) 1959; 164-page bound volume and 26-page supplement. Pennsylvania State University Press, University Park, Pa.; \$12.50.

Rehabilitation Medicinc. A textbook on physical medicine and rehabilitation. By Howard A. Rusk, M.D., and 36 collaborators. 1958; 572 pages. C. V. Mosby Co., 3207 Washington Boulevard, St. Louis 3, Mo.; \$12.

The Medical Care Price Index. Research Series No. 7. By Harry I. Greenfield, Ph.D., and Odin W. Anderson, Ph.D. 1959; 22 pages. Health Information Foundation, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.; no charge.

Public Health in Bridgeport. Introduction and mental health; vol I. Survey by the American Public Health Association and consultants. 1959; 75 pages. Bridgeport Community Chest and Council, 932 Broad Street, Bridgeport 3, Conn.

Traffic Accidents, 1958, Fresno County. Prepared by Department of Traffic Engineering, Fresno County. 1959; 17 pages. Fresno County Department of Public Works, Fresno 21, Calif.

Housing and Building Regulations in New York State Towns and Villages. Sponsored by the New York State Division of Housing and the U.S. Housing and Home Finance Agency (Demonstration Grants Program). 1959; 65 pages. Bureau of Community Development, State Division of Housing, 270 Broadway, New York 7, N.Y.

Wages and Hours in Nursing and Convalescent Homes, California 1958. Survey by Division of Labor Statistics and Research at request of Department of Industrial Relations. 1959; 45 pages. State of California, 965 Mission Street, San Francisco, Calif.

Wages and Hours in Children's Institutions, California 1958. Survey by Division of Labor Statistics and Research at request of Department of Industrial Relations. 1959; 39 pages. State of California, 965 Mission Street, San Francisco, Calif.

Wages and Hours in Institutions for Aged Persons, California 1958. Survey by Division of Labor Statistics and Research at request of Department of Industrial Relations. 1959; 43 pages. State of California, 965 Mission Street, San Francisco, Calif.

Prepayment in the Jet Age. By Basil C. MacLean, M.D., M.P.H., president, Blue Cross Association. 1959; 15 pages. The Blue Cross Association, 55 East 34th Street, New York 16, N.Y.; no charge.

A List of Worthwhile Health Insurance Books. 1959; 25 pages. The Health Insurance Institute, 488 Madison Avenue, New York 22, N.Y.; no charge.

Councils in Modern Perspective. By a study committee of the councils section, Community Funds and Councils of Canada, a division of the Canadian Welfare Council. 1959; 64 pages. The Canadian Welfare Council, 55 Parkdale Avenue, Ottawa 3, Ontario, Canada; \$1.

Vision Screening for Elementary Schools: The Orinda Study. By Henrik L. Blum, M.D., Henry B. Peters, M.A., O.D., and Jerome W. Bettman, M.D. 1959; 146 pages. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, Calif.

The Unmarried Mother. Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 282. By Ruth L. Butcher and Marion O. Robinson. 1959; 28 pages. Public Affairs Pamphlets, 22 East 38th Street, New York 16, N.Y.; 25 cents.

What's in Your Future—A Career in Health? Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 281. By Herbert Yahraes. 1959; 28 pages. Public Affairs Pamphlets, 22 East 38th Street, New York 16, N.Y.; 25 cents.

Making Medical Care Better—and Easier to Pay for, Too. Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 283. By Herbert Yahraes. 1959; 28 pages. Public Affairs Pamphlets, 22 East 38th Street, New York 16, N.Y.; 25 cents.

Do We Spend Enough Dollars to Defend Our Lives Thru Medical Research? Picture story. 1959. National Health Education Committee, Inc., 135 East 42d Street, New York 17, N.Y.; \$2.95.